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SCHOOL AGE MOTHERS PROGRAMME

## **REGIONAL GUIDANCE FOR CHILDCARE PROVIDERS**

## **SCHOOL AGE MOTHERS' PROGRAMME**

### **Childcare Costs: Arrangements from 1 July 2016**

#### **What is the School Age Mother's (SAM) Programme?**

The SAM Programme supports pregnant teenagers and young mothers to remain at school to complete compulsory schooling and where appropriate up to age 19 years. The SAM Programme is managed by the Education Authority. We offer a holistic model of support to enable school age mothers to get the best out of their education while bringing up their child. A wide range of different supports are offered, including assistance towards childcare costs.

#### **Which young women get assistance with childcare costs?**

Assistance with childcare cost is provided to young women who request it subject to the following conditions:

- Under 19 years at the start of a course of study in a school or under 19 years and committed to returning to school once the baby is born;
- An appropriate assessment has been completed, including confirmation that childcare is required to enable the young women to continue with studies in school; and
- The SAMs Co-ordinator will request evidence that the childcare provider appears on the trust's current register and has appropriate public liability insurance.

Continued support with childcare costs is dependent on the young women attending school on a regular basis.

#### **What funding is provided towards childcare costs?**

Assistance with childcare costs is provided through the Education Authority.

From 1 September 2012, the following costs are covered under current arrangements:

- Assistance will be provided on the basis of actual costs of childcare up to a maximum of £165 per week for each child.
- Deposits to secure places will be paid in-line with the provider's terms and conditions, to a maximum of £300.
- A retainer fee may be paid to ensure that the childcare place is kept available during such periods as school term and summer breaks. This must be agreed separately between the Education Authority and the childcare provider.

#### **How will payments be made?**

The Education Authority will pay the childcare provider directly. This is normally done on a monthly basis upon receipt of an invoice made out to the EA and accompanied by the monthly time sheet. All invoices must clearly state the name of the mother, the baby and the period covered by the invoice.

If the placement is terminated prematurely, the EA will honour any existing notification agreement, in line with the childcare provider's normal contractual arrangements.

**Your local SAM coordinator is**

**Name:**

**Address:**

**Tel No:**

**E-mail:**

## DECLARATION BY CHILDCARE PROVIDER

1. I confirm that I have received a copy of the details of the SAM Programme arrangements for assistance towards the costs of childcare.
2. I agree as part of my contract with (                      ) Education Authority to provide childcare to do the following:
  - To notify the SAM Co-ordinator immediately there is any change in my registration status as a childcare provider;
  - To maintain appropriate public liability insurance;
  - To comply with relevant health and safety and safeguarding regulations;
  - To provide all information required necessary to assist in prompt payment;
  - To communicate any alterations in my service promptly to the young woman and SAM Co-ordinator; and
  - To notify the Board immediately when the young woman withdraws her child(ren) and forward a copy of any letter of termination from the family.
  - Both parties to provide 4 weeks notice of termination of contract
  - To inform the SAMs Co-ordinator if there are any childcare protection concerns with the young person or child. We would also ask that you inform the young person that you have concerns and that you will be contacting Social Services and SAM Co-ordinator.

Name: .....

Address: .....

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Tel:

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Signature:

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Date:

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